

2005 Report of Accomplishments (July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005)

Lewis County Conservation District



Most Significant Natural Resource Accomplishment

- In May of 2004 we were informed of funds becoming available through the Small Forest Landowners Office at the Department of Natural Resources to replace fish barriers. (Family Forest Fish Passage Program) We had completed culvert assessments and were ready to proceed with two projects that were funded and implemented by September 2004. The projects opened up valuable habitat for Coho spawning and rearing.



Culvert Replacement Project

Mission of the Lewis County Conservation District

- To provide technical and financial assistance for the conservation, protection and development of natural resources within Lewis County.

Natural Resource Improvements in 2005 - Summary

- Completed 16 conservation plans for 1462.1 acres
- Provided \$219,798.18 in cost share to cooperators
- Provided 8800 hours of technical service to the citizens of Lewis County
- Completed surveys of 93 culverts in the Independence Creek, Prairie Creek, Scatter Creek, and Garrard Creek watersheds
- Walked 44.8 miles of streams to complete 29 Priority Indexes
- Completed 6 cost estimate designs to apply for grants to replace fish barriers

Water Quality Implementation

- Cost shared on 1460 feet of riparian exclusion fencing on salmon bearing stream
- Provided technical assistance to numerous landowners completing conservation plans for 4 cooperators
- Assisted 2 cooperators with soil testing
- Participated with Chehalis River Land Trust and Chehalis River Council planting 1600 trees and shrubs along the Chehalis River nature trail with 300 students from 4 school districts

Basic Funding

- Plant material sales - helped 119 individuals with the purchase of \$8260.00 in plant material
- Provided follow-up to cooperators that District has worked with in the past

Local Funding

- Provided assistance to landowners on wetlands and hydric soils
- Provided feedback to Lewis County on requested subdivision of property
- Assisted stakeholders whose needs are outside the scope of work of existing grants
- Assisted Lewis County Assessor and landowners with forestry plans

Puget Sound/Water Quality - Not Applicable

Professional Engineering

- Designed and completed construction inspection for 6 fish passage projects opening up 15.2 miles of habitat
 - Completed 2 bank stabilization projects protecting over 900 feet of stream bank from depositing sediment into the water
 - 2 irrigation best management practices
 - 2 non point source water quality best management practices for 50 acres
 - Assisted in the successful application for 8 Family Forest Fish Passage Program grants
 - 8 projects in design and permitting for 2005 stream permit window
 - Member of Technical Advisory Committee for Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board
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Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- 41.9 acre site had better than expected survivability and dramatic improvement with tree and shrub growth
- Maintained 442.2 acres currently enrolled in stream buffers totaling 25.3 miles with 182,854 seedlings planted to date
- 10 new sign ups and 2 new contracts developed
- 15,000 trees and shrubs were planted on 61 acres including new contracts and replants
- Provided \$42,727.01 in cost share to cooperators

Livestock/Dairy

- Provided cost share to a dairy for slab and curbing (waste transfer) getting the facility close to being completely implemented for certification
- Provided an additional \$12,596.36 to another dairy for waste transfer
- Completed and approved 2 Dairy Nutrient Management Plans and updated 3 plans
- Completed 3 livestock conservation plans
- Certified 2 dairies
- Assisted 20 dairies with soil testing

Irrigation Efficiencies - Not Applicable.

Watershed Conservation/Habitat Restoration

- Installation of 2 culverts on one stream to open up 1 mile of quality spawning and rearing habitat and providing \$59,561.00 cost share.
- Installed and provided costs share of \$23,071.00 for placement of woody debris
- Installed and provided cost share of \$21,790.00 for 1 bridge which opened .5 mile of habitat
- Completed surveys of 93 culverts in the Independence Creek, Prairie Creek, Scatter Creek, and Garrard Creek watersheds
- Walked 44.8 miles of streams to complete 29 Priority Indexes
- Held 2 Technical Advisory Committee meetings to go over culvert assessment grant progress
- Completed 6 cost estimate designs to apply for grants to replace fish barriers

Small Farm Programs

- Implementation of dry stacks at 2 poultry facilities to store nutrients during the wet season for protection of ground and surface water - provided cost share of \$35,416.00 for the 2 dry stack facilities
- Completed 5 conservation plans
- 5 cooperators used the no till drill, planted 104 acres
- Assisted 3 cooperators with soil testing

Community Collaboration & Coordination

- Developed Inter-local Agreement with Lewis County to use the counties small works roster for obtaining contractors to complete District projects
- Member of USF&W Chehalis Fisheries Restoration Program Technical Review Committee, assisted in ranking of grant applications
- Member of Chehalis Basin Partnership Water Quality Subcommittee
- Chairman of the Chehalis River Lead Entity Technical Advisory Group

Marketing/Outreach & Education

- Washington State CC presentation and tour of District fish passage projects, dairies and CREP site
- Information booth at the Southwest Washington Fair
- Centralia College used ground water model in Geology 101 and Environmental Geology
- Somerset County NJ Park Commission tour to salmon recovery projects (14 attended)
- AFO/CAFO presentations at Twin County Sale Barn and Lewis County Back Country Horseman
- Water Quality Workshop case study presentation
- 2 Articles in local papers on District activities
- CREP presentation to local CD employees



Dry Stack at poultry facility